

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2003 – 0800 MDT
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 3**

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was moderate in the Northern California and Southern California Areas, and light elsewhere. Nationally, 60 new fires were reported. Two new large fires were reported, one each in the Northern California and Northwest Areas. One large fire was contained in the Eastern Great Basin Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Hurricane Isabel, Virginia. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Ferguson) is assigned to provide logistical, operational, planning and resource support. The team will work jointly with GSA, FEMA and the Army Corp of Engineers, at Ft. A.P. Hill in Virginia. The National Park Service All Risk Management Team (Swed) is assigned. The team will be assessing hurricane damage and support needs for National Parks in North Carolina and Virginia.

Hurricane Isabel, North Carolina. Three Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Wathen/Pearson, Collins/Col. Holt/Hendricks) are assigned. The Governor of North Carolina has declared a State of Emergency for 12 counties. A Federal Disaster Declaration was made on 9/18. Through Unified Command, personnel are providing logistical, operational, planning and resource support.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

CANOE / HONEYDEW, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Hawkins) is assigned. The fires, located 16 miles north of Garberville, CA, are in old growth redwood, brush and logging slash. The Canoe fire developed into a crown fire where the fuel type changed to a hardwood/Douglas fir dominated site. Spotting and running continued on the Canoe fire. The fire has crossed the northwestern containment line and has encroached into the Salmon Creek residential area. Precautionary evacuations of the area are in place. Structure protection is in place for 177 residences.

CINDER, Lassen National Forest. This fire is in heavy timber, ten miles north of Chester, CA. Fire behavior included torching, spotting and moderate ground spread.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CANOE / HONEYDEW	CA	HUU	17,740	65	9/30	1,950	57	109	18	0	18.3M
CINDER	CA	LNF	100	50	9/27	308	11	5	5	0	155K

NORTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:

ISABEL, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Washington Interagency Incident Management Team (Johnson/Barnett) is assigned. This fire is in timber, ten miles northwest of Conconully, WA. Active fire behavior with single tree and group torching was observed. The fire was most active in the Peak Creek area and along the north flank.

NEEDLE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Furlong) is assigned. This fire is in timber and heavy downed fuels, 12 miles northwest of Winthrop, WA. Wind speeds decreased and a light wind remained throughout the day. The fire was active with torching and spotting. All trails in the vicinity of the fire and the road to Hart's Pass remained closed.

CRYSTAL CREEK, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Berndt) is assigned. This fire is in mixed conifer with dead and downed fuels, 15 miles southwest of Leavenworth, WA. Burning in large dead and downed fuels was observed. An area closure for Ingalls Creek trail and the lower Ingalls Creek drainage is in effect.

B&B COMPLEX, Deschutes National Forest. This complex, comprised of the Booth and Bear Butte fires, is in timber with heavy ground fuels 14 miles west of Sisters, OR. Fires within the complex continued to smolder and creep.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ISABEL	WA	OWF	1,690	10	UNK	353	9	16	5	0	2.6M
NEEDLE	WA	OWF	18,600	39	UNK	352	6	12	6	1	8.3M
CRYSTAL CREEK	WA	OWF	600	0	10/18	99	4	0	3	0	75K
B&B COMPLEX	OR	DEF	90,769	98	UNK	118	2	16	4	13	38.3M

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

KIBBIE COMPLEX, Yosemite National Park. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Rios) is assigned. This complex is in ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and brush, 28 miles west/northwest of Sonora, CA. A contingency fireline between Cherry Lake and Eleanor has been completed.

HOMERS NOSE 2, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park. A Fire Use Management Team (Bonefeld) is assigned. This fire is in mixed brush and ponderosa pine, 40 miles east of Visalia, CA. Minimal fire spread was reported.

MUD COMPLEX, Stanislaus National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Payne) is assigned. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) complex, which began on 8/31, is in timber and brush, five miles southeast of Bear Valley, CA. This incident, comprised of the Mud and Whit fires, is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Active fire behavior was observed in the Elephant Rock area. Elephant Rock Road was closed due to fire activity.

CARGYLE COMPLEX, Sierra National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. This complex, comprised of the Snake, Seven and Cargyle #2 fires, is 11 miles southwest of Mammoth Lakes. Backing fire with torching and short-range spotting in red fir and lodgepole pine was observed. This will be the last narrative unless significant activity occurs.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
KIBBIE COMPLEX	CA	YNP	6,500	NR	UNK	338	8	3	4	0	NR
HOMERS NOSE 2	CA	KNP	230	0	9/29	68	2	0	2	0	800K
MUD COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	4,408	N/A	N/A	109	2	0	3	0	481K
CARGYLE COMPLEX – WFU	CA	SNF	467	N/A	N/A	30	1	0	1	0	NR
KAWEAH-KERN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	KNP	5,465	N/A	N/A	37	0	1	1	0	325K
MOUNTAIN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	2,660	N/A	N/A	32	2	0	0	0	167K

EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA LARGE FIRES:

CASCADE, Uinta National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Muir) is assigned. This fire is in tall gamble oak, brush and grass, six miles west/southwest of Charleston, UT. Active fire behavior with crowning and isolated torching continued, due to warm and dry conditions. Burn out operations were successful. A closure order for a portion of the Pleasant Grove Ranger District in the fire vicinity is in effect.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CASCADE	UT	UIF	6,760	20	UNK	383	12	8	6	0	600K
HWY 25 MM17	ID	SID	877	100	---	15	0	4	0	0	NR

SID = Upper Snake River District, Southern Idaho Area, Bureau of Land Management

SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
POPLAR COMPLEX - WFU	AZ	GCP	1,676	N/A	N/A	51	1	0	0	0	NR

GCP = Grand Canyon National Park

OUTLOOK:

Weather Discussion: High pressure continues over the Western states with offshore winds over the Pacific Northwest. A strong flow aloft will bring gusty winds to portions of Montana.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<p>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA Clear skies with extensive fog areas along the coast extending locally inland night and morning hours.</p>	<p>60s to mid 70s near the coast, 80s to low 90s higher elevations inland and 90s to near 103 lower elevations inland.</p>	<p>5 to 15% driest inland areas, up to 45% or more along the coast. Poor nighttime relative humidity recovery on the inland upper slopes and ridges.</p>	<p>East to southeast 5 to 12 mph early, becoming southeast to southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon, a bit stronger along the coast.</p>
<p>NORTHWEST AREA Sunny and dry. Increasing easterly winds west of the Cascades mainly in Oregon.</p>	<p>Upper 70s and 80s western Washington ranging to near 100 in southwest Oregon. Generally 80s to mid 90s eastern Oregon and Washington.</p>	<p>Dry. Generally 25 to 35% western Washington and northwest Oregon ranging to 10 to 15% southwest Oregon. 10% to 20% over much of eastern Oregon and Washington.</p>	<p>Generally less than 10 mph east of the Cascades. Easterly winds 10 to 20 mph over the Oregon Cascades with gusts up to 35 mph on the ridges in the morning hours.</p>
<p>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA Areas of morning low clouds and fog lower coastal areas, otherwise sunny.</p>	<p>65 to 80 coastal areas. 75 to 90 mountains. 90 to 103 valleys. 95 to 103 upper desert. 102 to 108 low desert.</p>	<p>8 to 15% desert. 8 to 15% mountains. 12 to 20 valleys. 50 to 65% coast.</p>	<p>Northeast to southeast 5 to 15 mph except southwest to northwest 5 to 10 mph coastal areas.</p>
<p>EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Mostly sunny with above normal temperatures. Utah, Arizona Strip: Mostly sunny with above normal temperatures.</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 57 to 78 mountains, 82 to 90 valleys. Utah and Arizona Strip: 70 to 85 higher elevations, 85 to 101 lower elevations.</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 15 to 28% mountains, 11 to 20% valleys. Utah, Arizona Strip: 6 to 25%</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: North or upslope 5 to 12 mph. Utah, Arizona Strip: Upslope/upvalley and light.</p>



http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php

Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) Tank Hazards

Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) tanks are commonly found in the wildland-urban interface and present hazards to firefighters in that environment. LPG tanks may be found in a number of other environments such as motor homes, travel trailers, grills, campstoves, lanterns, etc. Directly attacking LPG tank fires is a structural fire task involving hazardous materials and should only be attempted by trained personnel using full structural personal protective equipment and equipped with a volume of water adequate to safely attack the fire.

● Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosions (BLEVE)

- The most recognized hazard with LPG tanks is BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosions) or sudden complete failure of the tank. Some training courses have directed responders to approach the tank from the sides, believing that the force of the explosion will occur on the ends of the tank. However, this is not a guarantee that you will be safe from projectiles or missiles from the explosion, as they may travel in ALL directions up to 2,500 feet away. Leave the area immediately if you smell propane, hear a rising sound from venting safety devices or see discoloration or deformation of the tank. If you leave the area, get at least 2,500 feet away and do not go down wind or down slope of the leaking propane. BLEVEs are a major hazard to emergency responders!

● Fuel Reduction Around Tanks

- Wildland firefighters may take action to prevent direct flame impingement on LPG tanks by removing wildland fuels in the area. However, be aware that lines from the tank to structures may be above or below ground, and may be cut by tools or equipment. Propane gas is heavier than air, and may move along the ground at some distance, and may ignite when it reaches open flame or another ignition source. Use extreme caution when doing fuel reduction around tanks, and flag any lines you encounter.

● Other Wildland Fire Considerations

- Do not position engines or other apparatus near LPG tanks or down wind / down slope from tanks.
- Do not deploy fire shelters near LPG tanks or down wind / down slope from tanks.

● Cooling Tanks

- In light fuels such as grasses, where any heat exposure to the tank will be very limited, rapid application of cooling water on the outside of the tank above the liquid level can reduce the likelihood of container failure by lowering the external temperature of the shell of the exposed tank. Water should not be directed at the valve safety devices, due to the potential of "icing" the valve closed.
- In heavy fuels where long duration heat exposure to the LPG tank is likely, evacuate all personnel and equipment 2,500 feet away and not down slope or down wind. NFPA says that direct flame impingement protection requires water flow of at least 500 gpm from an unmanned monitor nozzle. This is a situation for properly trained, equipped and supported structural firefighters.

FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	2	3			8	6	19
	ACRES	3	2			151	1	157
Northern California	FIRES					5	3	8
	ACRES					1,804	3	1,807
Southern California	FIRES				0	10	4	14
	ACRES				85	1	6	92
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1					2	3
	ACRES	1					2	3
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1				0	1
	ACRES		0				1,000	1,000
Western Great Basin	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		69					69
Southwest	FIRES		2					2
	ACRES		0					0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Southern Area	FIRES					10		10
	ACRES					9		9
TOTAL	FIRES	3	6	0	0	34	17	60
	ACRES	4	71	0	85	1,965	1,012	3,137

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	14	21	10	392	14	452
	ACRES	20	40,271	283,123	3,712	247,595	2	574,723
Northwest	FIRES	296	247	11	55	1,747	1,228	3,584
	ACRES	20,249	17,875	12	3,081	49,135	292,960	383,312
Northern California	FIRES	144	70	14	17	2,653	1,179	4,077
	ACRES	232	11,583	3	6,562	67,836	29,743	115,959
Southern California	FIRES	64	133	10	74	2,548	843	3,672
	ACRES	854	2,933	360	521	36,122	7,282	48,072
Northern Rockies	FIRES	981	61	33	85	953	1,500	3,613
	ACRES	77,626	107,435	23,265	166,669	156,111	364,109	895,215
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	58	810	6	46	655	943	2,518
	ACRES	19,423	135,374	1,242	2,634	47,518	140,989	347,180
Western Great Basin	FIRES	7	431	1	11	115	168	733
	ACRES	1	11,182	79	6	1,941	3,287	16,496
Southwest	FIRES	836	188	5	66	883	2,070	4,048
	ACRES	35,650	5,893	284	3,553	16,173	203,248	264,801
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	182	776	39	47	967	702	2,713
	ACRES	17,414	16,918	1,963	783	17,003	53,133	107,214
Eastern Area	FIRES	908		66	35	9,863	485	11,357
	ACRES	52,188		6,890	706	110,355	5,582	175,721
Southern Area	FIRES	147		46	12	11,761	335	12,301
	ACRES	21,739		12,130	764	186,855	8,839	230,327
TOTAL	FIRES	3,624	2,730	252	458	32,537	9,467	49,068
	ACRES	245,396	349,464	329,351	188,991	936,644	1,109,174	3,159,020

Ten Year Average Fires	68,371
Ten Year Average Acres	3,916,362

Changes in some agency YTD agency acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		1				0	1
	ACRES		580				600	1,180
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES						9	9
	ACRES						346	346
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						22	22
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		3				3	6
	ACRES		14,040				578	14,618
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						87	87
TOTAL	FIRES	0	4	0	0	0	15	19
	ACRES	0	14,620	0	0	0	1,633	16,253

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					6		6
	ACRES					1,555		1,555
Northwest	FIRES	28	96	23	3		218	368
	ACRES	5,351	22,025	5,795	123		30,209	63,503
Northern California	FIRES	2	7	112	16		127	264
	ACRES	31	267	21,216	2,193		10,562	34,269
Southern California	FIRES		2	4	7		170	183
	ACRES		27	621	3,275		13,675	17,598
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12	9	73	4	23	336	457
	ACRES	502	3,808	11,084	760	1,750	16,677	34,581
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	29	4		11	35	80
	ACRES	18	29,635	400		1,565	11,617	43,235
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6		3		1	10
	ACRES		520		2,084		230	2,834
Southwest	FIRES	14	35	19	8	3	267	346
	ACRES	3,653	26,946	39,373	7,383	12	47,756	125,123
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	28	25	90	9	11	87	250
	ACRES	1,730	20,204	12,778	9,592	190	8,857	53,351
Eastern Area	FIRES	23		315	16	502	204	1,060
	ACRES	10,562		56,669	1,823	80,990	26,936	176,980
Southern Area	FIRES	53		270	72	14,130	1,217	15,742
	ACRES	19,379		95,845	83,793	779,616	933,884	1,912,517
TOTAL	FIRES	161	209	910	138	14,686	2,662	18,766
	ACRES	41,226	103,432	243,781	111,026	865,678	1,100,403	2,465,546

*****Changes in some agency YTD agency acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments*****

WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1				1
	ACRES			42,800				42,800
Northwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						251	251
Northern California	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						1	1
Southern California	FIRES	2			52		55	109
	ACRES	0			6,300		13,683	19,983
Northern Rockies	FIRES				3		73	76
	ACRES				602		55,881	56,483
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				6		29	35
	ACRES				435		15,270	15,705
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6					6
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES				8		19	27
	ACRES				3,555		159,608	163,163
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		26		2		3	31
	ACRES		1,646		0		1,869	3,515
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				10			10
	ACRES				2,715			2,715
TOTAL	FIRES	2	32	1	81	0	186	302
	ACRES	0	1,648	42,800	13,607	0	246,563	304,618

*****Changes in some agency YTD agency acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments*****

RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest	24	4	19	35	7	15			269	92
Northern California	35	73	26	137	8	20			95	450
Southern California	27	5	13	11	18	7	1		144	35
Northern Rockies					2				4	
Eastern Great Basin	9	9	19	5	3	6			78	21
Western Great Basin		2	1		1					
Southwest	1								22	
Rocky Mountain	1		12	1	1				1	
Eastern Area									3	
Southern Area	9								206	332
Total	106	93	90	189	40	48	1	0	822	930

*** NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER ***